

COSTUMES GALORE, WIGS AND POWDER, FOR O.D. THESPIANS

Y.M.C.A. Barnstorming
Program Begins Suc-
cessful Operation

AMBITIOUS EFFORTS NEXT

Joan of Arc Pageant Now in Re-
hearsal—Props Already
North of Oureq

In an out-of-the-way room in Paris, some French sewing women are busy cutting, basting and hemming several thousand Santa Claus and minstrel costumes for the A.E.F.

This is a result of the Y.M.C.A.'s growing conviction that even if all the bright stars on Broadway were to come over to tread the boards in the huts of France, still the livelier and more hilariously enjoyed shows would be the shows put on by the men themselves.

Maude Adams and Douglas Fairbanks and Mrs. Castle may be all very well, but they cannot hand you the laughs that you get from a burlesque love scene between the mess sergeant and the colonel's orderly, with soft music from the chief muleskinner at the piano.

Clamor for Grease Paint

At every point where Yanks are gathered, there is a clamor for grease paint as well as war paint. Since the Quartermaster's store can be ransacked in vain for such items as a ballet skirt or a tendor's hat, it is up to the Y.M.C.A. During the six weeks ending August 1, the one bureau furnished out more than 1,000 costumes, more than 100 wigs, more than 700 pairs of shoes, more than 1,200 songs, to say nothing of rouge and powder by the gallon. Thus equipped, a bunch of O.D. barnstormers from one of the big ports has recently wound up a tour at Samur, and with most of the same equipment a band of fresh activity of this sort will soon be witnessed at Tours.

But such frivolities are not confined to the S.O.S. In fact, there are far more costume centers in the Z. of A. There is a theatrical wardrobe already in Chateau-Thierry. Theaters in the E. of France-Turkey, where the echo of the big guns has scarcely yet died out of the battle-scarred hills.

And the Costumes—

These costumes come from every corner of the world. Some are made in Paris, some could tell tales of famous actors and famous productions back in the States. Do you remember the big minstrel show at the Hippodrome the winter before America decided to take up war as her chief occupation? Well, some of the huge collars and the shiny black and white jackets that adorned that entertainment are now being worn in the great, roofless Hippodromes of the A.E.F.

Of course, minstrel shows are the favorite form of amateur dramatics in these parts and the coach or investigator to do no more than start them. He may take down a book of rotten jokes, but these are only useful as baits for better. The end-man, who begins by swearing he hasn't any stuff he can use, will glance over the proffered supply.

For example: Smith—What did he do?
Jones—He bottled cats-up.
"Gee, that's rotten," says the end-man—fairly enough. "Now, I remember a good animal gag Frank Timney used to pull. It was something like this—"

And the show is under way.

Some Ambitious Productions

Often the productions attempted are far more ambitious. Recently, in the Z. of A. there was a most successful production of that weird tragedy, "A Night at an Inn," by Lord Dunsany. There have been several parents of impressive scope and more are in preparation.

There is a Joan of Arc pageant now in rehearsal, with Mrs. John Craig as the Matchless Maid, but with a few other characters drawn from the A.E.F. It will be given in many places, and those at work on it have set their hearts on playing it, before the war is over, in the village where Joan was born. Meanwhile, plans are being laid for a Christmas pageant in every camp from the front line to the rear.

In some cases, the soldiers who have talent for the stage use that talent here and no other. One division has its troupe of show folks who work from reveille to taps on shows for the rest of the bunch. Some of the ablest American actors, composers and singers are in the Army now.

We could, with a wave of the hand, give a show with Robert Warwick and Schuyler Ladd in the cast, with Albert Spalding playing a violin solo between the acts and with Irving Berlin at the piano.

VILLAGES LINKED IN RECORD TIME BY RAILWAY UNIT

Continued from Page 1

and canned potatoes instead of the usual canned Charlie horse and canned tomatoes.

But the men in the company aren't satisfied. They believe that they can lay five miles of track a day.

"Nous le faisons toujours," declare the bucks.

The company clerk—we suppose it was the company clerk—who sent in this story, says, "I can write about the affair with propriety because while the bunch was plugging away on the line, I was merrily pounding on the company typewriter. And to show that it isn't all bunk—or any of it—he incloses the following self-explanatory official document:

Department of Light Railways and Roads. A.P.O. 703.

21 August 1918.

Memorandum to C.O.—Engrs. A.P.O. 703.

1. Herewith copies of letter from the Director of Light Railways and Roads and memorandum from the Chief Engineer, A.E.F., and the Manager of Light Railways and Roads, commending the work done under your direction by a detachment of your command.

2. The commanding officer of this project desires that you convey our appreciation of their good work to all those who participated, and also read to them the letter and memorandum above referred to.

(Signed) SAM A. ROBERTSON,

Major, Engrs., N.A.

480 ORPHANS NOW UNDER EAGLE'S WING

Eighteen More Fatherless
Boys and Girls Provided
for in Week

NAPOLEON COINS AID FUND

Five Children Are Adopted Across
Ocean—Engineers Want One
Who Can Say "Hello"

TAKEN THIS WEEK

Company D, 1st Inf.	1
Louise and Helen Connors.	1
Enlisted Personnel, Base Hospital No. 8	1
Y.M.C.A. Base Hospital No. 8	1
Lieut. C.P.E. — Brigade Hqs.	1
Ambulance Co., — Sanitary Tr.	2
Mrs. F. J. Wortishek	1
Friend of the — Aero Sq.	1
Mrs. Robert M. Hanes and Miss Sam Borden, Goldsboro, N.C.	1
— Balloun Company, S.C.	1
— Service Company, S.C.	1
Company A, Engrs.	1
Mrs. Bruce Payne, Wilkesbarre, Pa.	1
— Aero Constn. Sqn.	2
Company D, 1st Inf.	1
Katherine B. Rhodes, Grosse Pointe Farm, Mich.	1
Previously adopted	462
Total	480

The total of the A.E.F.'s war orphan family moved up 18 notches nearer the half thousand mark this week. There were five separate contributions from the States—a record—and 11 scattering from this side of the water, making the number of orphans under the wing of the American Eagle in France 480.

W. I. Kelsey, Y.M.C.A. secretary at Base Hospital No. 8, who previously had transmitted money for eight orphans, sent in France enough to insure three other fatherless children care for a year. Much of this fund was gathered by collections at meetings and in a contribution box placed on the bulletin board.

A good many Napoleon coins have been finding their way into the contribution box since these pieces of money lost their purchasing power, writes Secretary Kelsey, which will serve as an object lesson as to the proper thing to do with Napoleon coins. Stick them in. They are redeemable for a large fraction of their face value.

To Make Two Babies Happy

Ambulance Co. No. — held a meeting last Sunday night and collected 1,000 francs, which they forwarded with this message:

"We feel sure that this money will make two babies of France happy, and in a few weeks we shall be able, beyond any doubt, to buy another pair. The boys receive THE STARS AND STRIPES each week with the greatest enthusiasm and we assure the staff that our efforts will be with them until we reach Hoboken. [Where did we hear that name before?—En.] The spirit of the men and the rapidity with which the francs floated in last night goes to show that all the boys from the States want to give their last penny to bring sunshine and a home to an orphan child."

Co. A, of the — Engrs., Ry., knows the French children—also their English.

"We have," said Co. A, "beaucoup friends among the children of this neighborhood who have been saying 'good-bye' to us for almost a year. And if there is any chance, we would like to have a little child who could say, 'hello.'"

Balloon Observers Again

We will take up this matter, but we can't guarantee an "h" on the front of the word.

The balloon observers, whose batting average is well above .300, stepped to the front this week with 500 francs more to care for a fatherless child for a year and a promise of more to come. "We have subscribed 701 francs," said the Balloon Company. "The oversubscription of 201 francs will be held until the company contributes enough for another war orphan. The balloon companies have been contributing liberally, and we intend doing our best to keep up the good work."

WAR PRICES FOR SHAVES

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES] AMERICA, Aug. 29.—Even the assuming barber, who hitherto has been the one national industry that has not advertised that it is helping the war, has seen a new financial empire and New York hair experts have raised the price of shaves to 20 cents.

Haircuts cost 40 cents; shampoo, trimmed beard and shins, 40 cents each; oil shampoo, 50 cents. Hotel shops are placed in a special war zone, with extra charges of their own.

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COUGH AIDS THEM IN NIGHT PROWL THROUGH FISMES

Continued from Page 1

caught in the shower of a caving house. Now and then they would strike a dead man and make a detour.

Wire Vanishes in Stubble

Down this street, around the corner, down the next, around another corner and so on, through the black wetness. Then they lost the wire. Somewhere in a heap of now-fallen rubble, their guide had vanished—broken, perhaps; gone, anyway. They crept painfully over every inch of the street thereby. There was no wire.

They squatted down on their haunches. It looked as though they would have to wait till dawn to find the lost P.C. It was midnight. That would mean a loss of six hours and the disposition of the reinforcing battalion by daylight, but there was nothing else to do, unless by some chance.

Just then, quite close by, someone coughed. It seemed to come from within the house next them, the skeleton of a house from which all the window panes had long since been shaken.

He Was Looking, Too

There is no account to a cough. It might be from friend or foe. The captain, as he groped his way into the house, kept calling out: "Who's there? Who's there?" There was no answer. He groped on and then, suddenly, he walked into some one.

The captain grabbed the unknown quantity by the throat. There was a moment of silence that hurt, then a few whispers and the stranger proved to be a Yankee runner. He was looking, he explained, for the colonel's P.C. He thought it was in this house.

In the darkness they reconnoitered. The runner steps leading to a wine cellar. Below, a thick curtain did not quite blind a lighted candle. Someone was below there. They called out. No answer. They called again. No answer.

"I have a hand grenade here," said the captain loudly, "and if you don't speak, I'll take you for Germans and throw it."

He could hear someone whispering: "I guess they're Yanks all right." Then below in the darkness, the curtain lifted. It was the colonel's P.C.

CANOE UPSET, 17 DROWN

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES] AMERICA, Aug. 29.—Seventeen girls and women were drowned off Rockaway Point, L.I., when an enormous string of canoes being towed by a motor launch got into a heavy sea. The canoes were swamped and capsized one after another.

The launch, which picked up many who were struggling in the water, then capsized in its turn.

SOLDIERS

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VARDAMAN LOSES IN MISSISSIPPI CONTEST

Congressman Harrison Is
Victor in Senatorial
Primary

SUFFRAGE CAMPAIGN LIVE

Republicans in Upper House Urge
Early Consideration of Federal
Amendment

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES]

AMERICA, Aug. 29.—Congressman B. P. Harrison of Gulfport, Mississippi, has beaten Senator Vardaman in the Senatorial primary elections for the United States Senate.

Other political pots continue to simmer in a desultory and discouraged sort of way. The candidates cook heatedly, but the results are only a pallid sort of stew in which the public languidly declines to take a keen interest.

The New York State fight has petered down for the time being to a daily shelling by Attorney-General Lewis, with the projectiles mostly aimed at Hearst, in the Christian hope that they will ricochet and find Governor Whitman's head without a trench helmet. The Whitman trenches preserve a majestic silence.

Suffragists Battle Ahead

The only live campaign is the women's campaign for the suffrage amendment, which goes on regardless of the fact that the anti-suffragists have repeatedly and firmly announced that it pains them and that it is a shame to talk about it during a perfectly good war. The Republican United States Senators, in caucus, have adopted a resolution urging early consideration of the amendment, and have pledged the Republican side to take it up immediately after the draft bill.

Congressman Jeannette Rankin is making a mighty lively fight for the United States Senatorship from Montana, causing considerable casualties among old-line statesmen, who are beginning to wonder with some apprehension if the sacred Senate is not actually in danger of a petticoat invasion.

There are 15 women on the New York City Socialist ticket, two for Supreme Court justiceships, four for Congress, six for the State senate and one for alderman or alderwoman.

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